

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 ERDA-05 OC-06  
CCO-00 AGRE-00 /056 W  
-----290954Z 038747 /13

R 281730Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6808  
HQS NASA WASHDC

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NASA FOR ZOOK

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: TSPA, UR, US  
SUBJECT: US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT: EXTENSION OF 1971 NASA-ACADEMY  
AGREEMENT (04.00)

REF: (A) MOSCOW 4941, (B) MOSCOW 5540

1. SUMMARY: VERESHCHETIN, APRIL 27 PROVIDED SCICOUNS WITH ACADEMY  
RESPONSE TO LOVELACE LETTER ON EXTENSION OF NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT.  
WITH SOME NUANCES, SOVIETS HAVE ACCEPTED NASA PROPOSALS FOR RESTRUCT-  
URING PLANETARY RESEARCH JWG AND SPACE MEDICINE JWG. THE ONLY REAL  
POINT OF CONTENTION IS SOVIET DESIRE NOT TO SEE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT  
JWG LIMITED ESSENTIALLY TO AGRICULTURE. END SUMMARY.

2. VERESHCHETIN, INTERKOSMOS, PROVIDED SCICOUNS WITH APRIL 22  
LETTER FROM ACADEMY PRESIDENT ALEKSANDROV RESPONDING TO LOVELACE  
LETTER OF FEBRUARY 8. THIS LETTER CONVEYED SOVIET CONCURRANCE TO  
EXTENSION OF THE NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT FOR THREE YEARS AND SUGGESTED  
CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN FOR A FIVE YEAR EXTENSION TO CONFORM WITH  
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SPACE AGREEMENT.

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2. SCICOUNS UNDERLINED NASA'S CONCERN THAT TOPICS AND MODES OF  
OPERATION OF THE JWG'S BE PRECISELY DEFINED BEFORE EXTENSION OF THE  
ACADEMY-NASA AGREEMENT IS CONSIDERED FORMALIZED. VERESHCHETIN  
COMMENTED HERE THAT THE ONLY MAJOR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BOTH  
SIDES APPEARS TO BE THE SCOPE OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT JWG. HE  
SUGGESTED THAT NASA MIGHT RESPOND TO ALEKSANDROV'S LETTER BY INDI-  
CATING AGREEMENT TO EXTEND SUBJECT TO SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION

OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ISSUE DURING THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THIS JWG NEXT JULY. HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE DESIREABLE, THOUGH NOT OBLIGATORY, TO HAVE SOME FORMALIZATION OF THE EXTENSION OF THE NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT PRIOR TO THE RENEWAL OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT MAY 24.

3. VERESHCHETIN COMMENTED THAT THE ALEKSANDROV LETTER GOES A LONG WAY TO MEET NASA'S CONCERN FOR CLOSER EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON PLANETARY SPACE RESEARCH INCLUDING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL DATA. HE UNDERLINED HOWEVER THAT THE SOVIETS DID NOT WANT THIS AGREEMENT TO OBLIGATE THEM TO DISCLOSE ALL THEIR FUTURE PLANETARY RESEARCH PLANS, AND ADDED HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. INTENDED TO DO THIS EITHER. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS CONSIDER ALL OF THE TECHNICAL DATA THE U.S. SUPPLIED TO THE SOVIETS ON U.S. PLANETARY RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IS IN THE OPEN LITERATURE, AND COULD BE OBTAINED THROUGH COSPAR, FOR EXAMPLE. HE SAID THAT THE SOVIETS HAD PROVIDED THE U.S. WITH TECHNICAL DATA ON THEIR PLANETARY RESEARCH WHICH WAS NOT OTHERWISE AVAILABLE. HE ADDED THAT THIS COMMENT DID NOT MEAN THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD REQUEST TECHNICAL DATA BEYOND WHICH IS IN THE OPEN LITERATURE. FINALLY VERESHCHETIN SAID THE SOVIETS DO CONSIDER THAT CLOSER COOPERATION IN PLANETARY RESEARCH IS IMPORTANT BUT THEY PREFER AN "EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH".

4. SCICOUNS WILL HANDCARRY SOVIET RESPONSE TO LOVELACE LETTER FOR TRANSMITTAL TO NASA, MAY 2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF ALEKSANDROV LETTER ONLY, PROVIDED SEPTEL. TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPACE AGREEMENTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 MOSCOW 4941, 77 MOSCOW 5540  
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**To:** STATE NASA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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